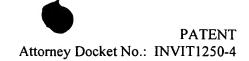
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IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the current Abstract and substitute for it the following amended Abstract:

This invention provides a method for identifying one or more complexes from a library, wherein the complex or complexes are selected for their ability to perform a preselected function on a target molecule or for having a preselected structure. Each complex is designated a morphatide. The method comprises: (a) preparing a library of morphatides, comprised of: (i) a scaffolding component; (ii) one or more linker components; and (iii) one or more agent molecules, linked to the scaffolding component by one or more type of linker components; and (b) screening the library of morphatides by associating the morphatides with one or more suitable target molecules upon which a morphatide performs a preselected or desired function or to which a morphatide binds or associates through a pre-selected structure of the morphatide; (c) separating the morphatides performing the preselected function or binding or associating through the preselected structure, from the library.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, first paragraph, please delete and insert the following:

-- This application is a continuation of U.S.S.N. 09/061,831, filed April 16, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S.S.N. 08/953,634 filed October 17, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S.S.N. 08/839,468 filed April 14, 19997, and claims the benefit of copending U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/028,527 filed October 17, 1996, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.--



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PATENT
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CONCLUSION

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in advance of the first examination of the subject application. The abstract and related application information have been amended. No new matter has been entered.

No fee is believed due with the present response. However, please charge any additional fees, or make any credits, to Deposit Account No. <u>50-1355</u>. If the Examiner would like to discuss any of the issues raised in the Office Action, Applicant's representative can be reached at (858) 677-1456.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 29, 2001

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